

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 23, 2009

The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro  
Acting Comptroller General  
U.S. Government Accountability Office  
441 G Street, NW, Room 7125  
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Mr. Dodaro,

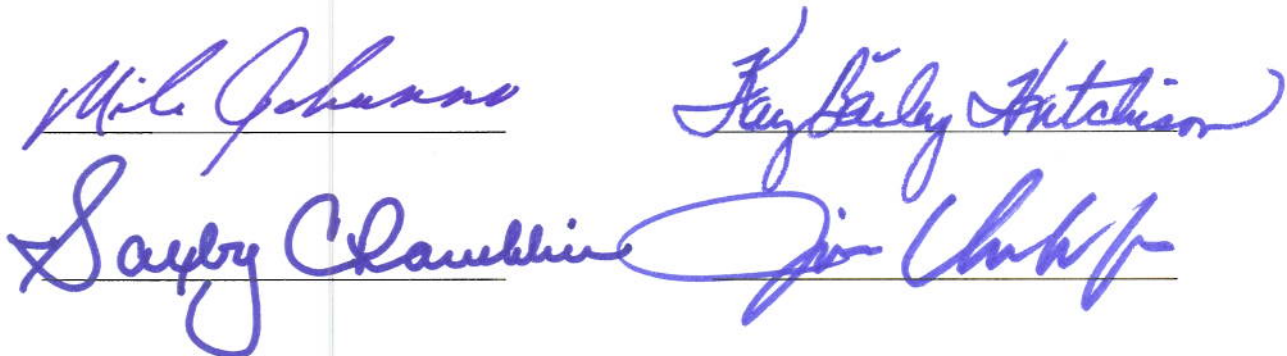
I am writing to request that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) undertake a review of ACORN, otherwise known as the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now. For purposes of this letter, the term ACORN shall mean the organization itself, its subsidiaries, its affiliates, and the employees of all such organizations.

Any such investigation should:

- (1) Analyze the business structure and organizational management of ACORN.
- (2) Analyze ACORN's compliance with state, local and federal law.
- (3) Examine ACORN's tax structure focusing on a delineation of what activities fall under their 501(c)3 umbrella and what, if any, do not.
- (4) Compile a comprehensive list of all federal funding that ACORN has received since its inception; including, but not limited to, contracts, cooperative agreements, grants, appropriations and emergency funding.
- (5) Examine grants or payments for services made by ACORN, its subsidiaries or affiliates.
- (6) Examine grants or payments for services received by ACORN, its subsidiaries or affiliates.

Current voter fraud investigations in several states, prior fraud convictions, and new videos showing apparent illegal activity by ACORN employees suggest that at the very least the organization warrants a top to bottom investigation on behalf of the taxpayer. Taxpayers deserve nothing less than a thorough and transparent accounting of ACORN's activities.

Sincerely,

  
Mike Johanns Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sawyer Chamberlain Jim Chabot

J. Ihm

Dick Lugar

Wm. G. Hatch

Richard Shelby

John Barrasso

Chuck Grassley

George V. Voinovich

Susan M. Collins

Doc Roberts

Sam Frawley

Jimmy DeLoach

Lamar Alexander

Tom Coburn

Lyndee Weaver

John C. Stennis

Mike Crapo